

# Briefs . . .

## ‘Teaching as a Second Career Seminar’

People interested in finding out more about Troops to Teachers and Spouses to Teachers are invited to a “Teaching as a Second Career Seminar” Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. in Building 2263, Room B100, on Stanley Road. The seminar is hosted by the Army Career and Alumni Program Center. For more information, call the ACAP at 221-1213.

## ‘CivilianJobs.com’ Job Fair

The CivilianJobs.com Job Fair will be held today from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fort Hood Catering and Conference Center, 24th Street and Wainwright Drive, Building 5764, Fort Hood, Texas. Many employers will be recruiting for domestic and international positions including law enforcement, information technology, project management, transportation, sales and operations. For more information, call 866-801-4418 or visit [www.CivilianJobs.com](http://www.CivilianJobs.com).

## Caminada de Fiesta 11K walk

The Caminada de Fiesta 11K walk will be held Saturday at Fort Sam Houston, beginning and ending at the U.S. Army Medical Department Museum. Start time is between 7:30 a.m. and 12 p.m., with an end time of 3 p.m. The event is sponsored by U.S. Army Medical Command and the Volkssport Association. The walk is free and open to the public. Participants are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. For more information, call Gerald Kamicka at 658-2160 or e-mail [GeraldK726@aol.com](mailto:GeraldK726@aol.com).

## Fiesta at the museum

The Fort Sam Houston Museum will be showing its collection of Fiesta medals and photos starting Saturday. For more information, call 221-1886.

## ‘Spring Back to Health’ fair

A “Spring Back to Health” health fair will be held Monday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Willis Hall food court of the Army Medical Department Center and School. Topics include how exercise can reduce blood pressure, the benefits of therapeutic massage, preventive cancer screenings that can save lives and many others. The fair is presented by the future preventive medicine clinicians from the 6A-F5 course. For more information, call Capt. Alfreda Ritter at 221-6245.

See **BRIEFS** on Page 3



Photo by Jerry Harben

# Top medic

Staff Sgt. Mario Medina, Western Regional Medical Command, checks for signs of breathing during the Expert Field Medical Challenge, which was held April 13 to 16 at Camp Bullis and Fort Sam Houston. Medina, a wardmaster at Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Wash., emerged from the challenge with the title of “Top Medic in the Army.” **See related story on Pages 12 and 13.**

# Tour gives educators insight into Army medical careers

By Elaine Wilson  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

Twenty-seven military and civilian educators and organization presidents from throughout the nation converged at Fort Sam Houston April 15 through 18 for the first-ever Army Medical Specialist Corps Educators Tour.

The visitors, from top universities and national professional organizations, got a first-hand look at how the Army trains its occupational therapists, physical therapists, dietitians and physician assistants – the four specialties that comprise the Army Medical Specialist Corps.

“I think the visitors will walk away with a tremendously pos-

itive message,” said Col. George Dilly, the Specialist Corps specific branch proponent officer. “Our goal is to show the opportunity, flexibility and diversity within the Army Medical Specialist Corps.”

The Specialist Corps, along with U.S. Army Recruiting Command, organized the tour to enhance recruiting efforts and familiarize key civilian leaders with the Army and its incentives and benefits.

“I had a general idea about our military professionals, but this tour makes it real. I’ll take back this information and look at ways to educate our members about the military and the career opportunities,” said Ronald Moen, chief executive officer for

See **EDUCATORS** on Page 4

# Fort Sam Houston ‘Fiesta and Fireworks’ is Sunday



Photo by Esther Garcia

The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment Continental Color Guard presents the national and U.S. Army colors during the Fort Sam Houston Fiesta and Fireworks military ceremony last year.

The public is invited to Fort Sam Houston for a free Fiesta celebration Sunday from 1 to 9 p.m. in the field adjacent to MacArthur Pavilion. The Country Fair will feature military equipment displays, various exhibits, live entertainment, kids’ activities, carnival rides, games and food and drink booths. Continuous entertainment begins at 1 p.m.

The public is requested to enter Fort Sam Houston from Interstate Highway 35 at the Walters Street gate, the Harry Wurzbach Road entrance or the Pershing gate off of Broadway. No pets or coolers are allowed. Residents are advised there will be excessive traffic on post Sunday and some streets will be closed to accommodate Fiesta visitors and events. Residents are asked to be patient and find alternate routes as needed.

## On stage

12:45 to 1:15 p.m. – Karavan Studios Belly Dancers  
1:15 to 1:50 p.m. – Robin Perry Terrazas and the Spot Barnett band.  
1:55 to 3 p.m. – Army Medical Command “Rock” Band

3 to 3:30 p.m. – Kazamba Dance and Drum Group  
3:30 to 4 p.m. – Ballet Folklorico del Cielo  
4 to 5 p.m. – Las Erendiras, a female mariachi group  
**Military ceremony at MacArthur Parade Field**  
5 to 5:30 p.m. – U. S. Army Drill Team from Washington  
5:30 to 5:50 p.m. – Retreat, followed by a performance by the 82nd Airborne Division Chorus from Fort Bragg, N.C.  
6 to 6:50 p.m. – Fiesta Royalty awards, Fiesta Salute, Soldiers on Parade  
6:55 to 7:30 p.m. – Escaramuza Rosas de Castilla, an equestrienne drill team  
**Back on stage**  
7 to 8 p.m – The Almost Patsy Cline Band from Bandera, Texas  
8 to 9 p.m. – Joint Fiesta concert with the Army Medical Command Band directed by Chief Warrant Officer William Brazier and the Alamo City Community Marching Band directed by Juan Garcia, will feature a giant fireworks show and cannon fire to the famed “1812 Overture” by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky.  
9 p.m. – Fireworks finale!



# Combat patches authorized at lower echelons

By J.D. Leipold  
Army News Service

**WASHINGTON** — The Army has changed its policy on the wear of combat patches as a result of the way Soldiers and their units now deploy. Since 1945 the intent behind the wear of the combat patch, known as the “shoulder sleeve insignia-former wartime service,” was to recognize Soldiers’ participation in combat operations. However, this only applied to Soldiers who were serving with such large echelon deployed units as separate brigades, divisions, corps, Army commands or higher. “Soldiers deploy differently now, at smaller echelon levels such as companies, battalions, combat brigade teams and as individual augmentees in support of larger echelon units,” said Sgt. Maj. Katrina Easley, branch chief for uniform policy at Army G-1. “At those levels they weren’t authorized to wear their unit patch as a combat patch.”

Once Soldiers report to their first units, they wear their command’s patch on their left sleeves. When deployed to a designated combat zone, Soldiers may also wear the company-level or higher patch that they serve with on their right sleeves. In the past, confusion resulted over which combat patch should be worn by Soldiers who were cross-leveled, assigned, attached or serving as augmentees to deployed units. This also affected Soldiers under temporary duty orders in a combat zone. The new guidance states that when echelons below company level deploy, Soldiers in those units may now wear the combat patch of the lowest-echelon command they deploy with, as long as it’s at company level or higher. The new implementing instructions to Army Regulation 670-1 became effective March 28 and are not retroactive. As before, Soldiers who have earned multiple combat patches may choose which patch to wear. Soldiers may also elect not to wear a combat patch.

## Off-limit establishments for armed forces personnel

The following establishments are off-limits to armed forces personnel. These establishments have been placed off-limits by the San Antonio Armed Forces Disciplinary Board to help maintain the health, morale and welfare of armed forces personnel. Personnel entering off-limits establishments may be subject to disciplinary action per applicable service regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Establishment	Address
Cracker Box Palace	622 W. Hildebrand
*Planet K	5619 Evers
*Planet K	1015 East Mulberry Ave.
*Planet K	2803 Goliad Road
*Planet K	2138 Austin Highway
Voodoo Tattoo Parlor	202 Aransas
Texas Players Club	14543 Roadrunner Way
Boys Town	Acuna, Mexico
Widows Web Bar and Night Club	Acuna, Mexico
The Up and Down Club	Acuna, Mexico

\* Also includes all locations in Bexar, Atascosa, Wilson, Guadalupe, Comal, Kendall, Medina and Bandera counties. (Source: Col. Wendy Martinson, Fort Sam Houston Garrison commander)

## Fort Sam Houston News Leader

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Briefs

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232nd change of responsibility

The 232nd Medical Battalion change of responsibility ceremony for outgoing Sgt. Maj. Gilberto Martinez-Torres will be held May 7 at 8 a.m. at the MacArthur Parade Field.

National Guard Fiesta

A National Guard Fiesta will be held Wednesday from 3 p.m. to midnight at the Texas National Guard Armory, 4255 Interstate Highway 35. For more information, call 512-782-1605 or 226-3424.

Quadrangle closed May 1 to 17

The Fort Sam Houston Quadrangle will be closed to the public May 1 through 17 due to training.

Asian Pacific Heritage Month

Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony for Asian Pacific Heritage Month will be held May 1 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Army Community Service (Roadrunner), Building 2797. The event will include entertainment, food sampling and student recognition awards. The guest speaker will be Command Sgt. Maj. Tuileama Nua, 44th Medical Command (Airborne).

Asian Pacific Expo

An Asian Pacific Expo will be held May 26 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston Commissary parking lot. The expo will feature exhibition dances, vendors, food and the talent search finals.

Asian Pacific Talent Search

People with “star” quality are invited to participate in the Asian Pacific Talent Search May 26. The first auditions and elimination round will be held Monday from 3 to 6 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. Singers, dancers and poets are welcome to audition. The deadline to sign up for an audition is Friday. People from all ethnicities are welcome to participate. For more information or to sign up for an audition, call Master Sgt. Basheda Kelley at 930-9548 or e-mail basheda.kelley@usar.army.mil; or call Sgt. 1st Class Freida Carter at 930-9567 or e-mail freida.l.carter@usar.army.mil.

For more information on any of these events, call Master Sgt. Ricky Evans at 295-0561 or contact a unit equal opportunity adviser. To request reasonable accommodation for a disability, call 221-0218.

Schedule physicals early

Parents are encouraged to schedule their child’s physical early for school, camp, sports and cheerleading. The Brooke Army Medical Center Pediatric Clinic has openings for routine physical appointments for TRICARE Prime patients enrolled in BAMC Pediatrics. To book an appointment, call 916-3160, option 2. For immunizations only, call 916-5791.

Check ID expiration date

People should call the ID card section for an appointment two to three weeks prior to the expiration date on their Common Access Card. If the card is already expired, then cardholders will need to bring two types of identification, such as a driver’s license and Social Security card. One of the two types must be a photo ID. The expired CAC cannot be used as identification. For appointments, call 221-0415 or 221-2278.

Army Medical Specialist Corps celebrates 60th anniversary

By Cheryl Harrison  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

The Army Medical Specialist Corps celebrated its 60th anniversary Monday in a ceremony at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course.

The Army Medical Specialist Corps comprises four specialties — occupational therapy, physical therapy, dietitians and physician assistants. It was founded in 1947 when President Harry S. Truman signed Public Law-36, establishing the Women’s Medical Specialist Corps. In 1955, Public Law 84-294 authorized the commissioning of male medical specialists, and the name was changed to the Army Medical Specialist Corps.

With a traditional cake cutting and Soldiers dressed in period uniforms worn throughout the history of the corps, special guest Col. Bonnie DeMars, the current chief of the Army Medical Specialist Corps, spoke on the “whys” of the celebrations.

“Why do we celebrate? It is important to reflect and recall the heritage and reaffirm our commitment to the Army Medical Specialist Corps and the Army Medical Department. Today we meet the challenges and are rising to the occasion,” said DeMars.

With a different perspective, guest speaker retired Staff Sgt. Christian Bagge gave his thoughts about the Specialist Corps from when he lay in a hospital bed, recovering from an ambush while serving in Iraq. Because of that attack in June 2005, Bagge lost both of his legs.

Bagge in his remarks said, “I remember seeing the lights of the hospital, just like on television, as I was wheeled in on a stretcher. I remember the doctors telling me they had to amputate my legs to save my life. I wondered ‘what am I going to do now?’ I came home a double amputee.

My first run in with the Specialist Corps was a dietitian. I was laying there in a bed, so drugged up and I wasn’t eating and in so much pain and they kept handing me Ensure. You know what those are; they’re commonly used for elderly people to make sure they are getting vitamins. Then the therapist, coming into my room early in the morning and stretching me and I didn’t see the relevance of this. I was lying in a bed and I didn’t see the severity of my injuries, the sheer difficulties of short and long term challenges.”

Bagge continued describing the challenges he faced. “I had a



Photo by Ed Dixon

physical therapist, a short balding guy, and it was like basic training all over again. Before I was injured I didn’t understand the importance of the Army medical community, the Specialist Corps. The dietitians, therapists, physician assistants, the people I spent a lot of my time with. The important role each and every one of you played in my healing. You are so important to me. If it weren’t for the wonderful people like you, I wouldn’t be where I am today. Thank you.”

Bagge made the nation proud a year after his injury when the world watched as he jogged around the south lawn of the White House with President George W. Bush. He now speaks to children and schools around the nation about persistence, success and triumph. Bagge also serves as an advocate and part-time spokesman for the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial Foundation in Washington D.C.

The ceremony represented the rich history and significant contributions of the Army Medical Specialist Corps to Soldier health care. The 60th anniversary pays homage to the Specialist Corps that serves Soldiers in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, as well as here at home. Not only does the team perform duties as health care providers, researchers, instructors and commanders of medical treatment facilities in the United States and around the world, they make a difference for the Soldiers and the nation.

Government-issued cell phones are for official use only

The Army is re-emphasizing guidance for the use of government-issued cellular phones. Portable, mobile and cellular telephones are to be used for official and authorized use only. Official calls are defined as those telephone communications directly related to Department of Defense business or having an indirect impact on DoD’s ability to conduct its mission.

Official use of government phones must be limited to requirements that cannot be satisfied by other available telecommunications methods. Cellular phones will not be used in place of established landline telephones. If an official government landline is available, the caller will use the landline instead of the government-issued cellular phone.

Personal use is prohibited, unless where specified by Army Regulation 25-1, which permits limited use, if the personal communications are reasonable in duration, normally five minutes or less, and frequency.

Employees should refer to the regulation for detailed guidance regarding personal use.

Commanders should take note that cellular phones are only authorized when warranted by mission requirements, technical limitation, feasibility or cost considerations. Commanders must develop local procedures to implement policy on acquiring and using cellular phones. They should be vigilant in investigating cellular phone abuses, take disciplinary action against abusers as appropriate and initiate action to collect reimbursement from abusers. The unit or organization should not pay for unauthorized uses or unnecessary roaming charges.

Practices to avoid:

- Don’t automatically forward office and residence phone calls to government cellular phone numbers.
- Don’t automatically forward cellular phone calls to office or residence phone numbers.
- Don’t use a cell phone while operating a vehicle on a military installation unless a

hands-free device is used — exceptions include emergency responders.

- Don’t use non-secure cellular telephones while discussing classified or sensitive subjects. Tactical units in a deployed environment will use the Army’s encrypted secure cellular systems for discussing classified or sensitive subjects.
- Don’t use cellular phones in geographic areas outside of the area of service coverage and where usage incurs roaming charges. If in doubt, check with the local Director of Information Management office before making any phone calls.
- Don’t delay in reporting stolen or missing cellular phones to the DOIM office so service can be canceled or suspended to prevent illegal uses or charges.

For more information on the Army policy regarding the issuance and use of government-issued cellular telephones, refer to Army Regulation 25-1, paragraph 6-1 d-f and 6-42, or visit [www.apd.army.mil/pdffiles/r25\\_1.pdf](http://www.apd.army.mil/pdffiles/r25_1.pdf).



Photo by Eric Atkisson

New first sergeant

A new first sergeant, 1st Sgt. Herminio Garcia, assumed responsibility for the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of U.S. Army South April 5 in a ceremony at the Evans Auditorium. Leaving the HHC was 1st Sgt. Elva Marquez. Maj. Andrew Ajamian, the HHC commander, paid tribute to both first sergeants during his remarks. “HHC has been served well by 1st Sgt. Marquez and is in good hands with 1st Sgt. Garcia. Congratulations to you both and good luck in all your endeavors.”



# Sec. Gates extends Army tours in Iraq to 15 months

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** — All Soldiers in the U.S. Central Command area of operations will serve 15-month tours in the region beginning immediately, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates announced April 12.

“Effective immediately, active Army units now in the Central Command area of responsibility and those headed there will deploy for not more than 15 months and return home for not less than 12 months,” Gates said during a Pentagon news conference.

The policy applies to all active-duty Army units with the exception of two brigades currently in Iraq that have already been extended to 16 months. The policy does not apply to Marine Corps, Navy or Air Force units serving in Central Command. It also does not apply to Army National Guard or Army Reserve units deployed to the region.

The 15-month tour applies to active-duty Soldiers serving in Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa and all the countries in the region. U.S. Central Command stretches from Kenya to Kazakhstan and Egypt to Pakistan.

“Soldiers will receive an extra \$1,000 a month for each month or portion of the month that they serve longer than 12 months,” Gates said.

Gates called this policy an “interim change.” The goal for active-duty units is 12 months deployed followed by 12 months at home station. Ultimately, the Army would like to see Soldiers deployed for 12 months and home for 24 months.

“My objective was to set clear guidelines that our commanders, troops and their families could use in determining how future rotations in support of the global war on terror would effect them,” Gates said.

Upon taking office in December 2006, Gates learned that even sustaining the level of deployed Army forces needed before surging five brigades into Iraq would require active-duty units to flow into Iraq before they had spent a full 12 months at home. He said this reality was a significant factor in his decision to recommend to President George W. Bush that defense officials increase the size of the Army and Marine Corps over the next five years by 62,000 Soldiers and 27,000 Marines.

The deployment change is intended to provide better clarity, predictability and sustainability in how the Defense Department deploys active-duty Army forces, Gates said.

He said the changes produce clear, realistic, executable and long-term policy goals to guide the deployment of active-duty forces. The change will also allow the Army



Courtesy photo

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates speaks with the press during a Pentagon briefing on deployment extensions.

to support the 20-brigade goal of the surge as long as it is needed, he said.

“Without this action we would have had to deploy five Army active-duty brigades sooner than the 12-month at-home goal,” Gates said. “I believe it is fairer to all Soldiers that all share the burden equally.”

The secretary said he realizes his decision will ask a lot of Army troops and their families.

“We are deeply grateful for the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform and their commitment to accomplishing our mission,” he said. “In the end, this new approach will better allow the Army to better support the war effort while providing a more predictable and dependable deployment schedule for our Soldiers and their families.”

## Fort Sam Soldiers honor World War II heroes with 26.2-mile march

Several Fort Sam Houston teams traveled to White Sands Missile Range, N.M., in March to participate in the Bataan Memorial Death March along with 3,600 other participants from throughout the world.

The Bataan Memorial Death March is a challenging 26.2-mile march through the high desert terrain of White Sands Missile Range, conducted in honor of the heroic service members who defended the Philippine Islands during World War II, sacrificing their freedom, health and, in many cases, their lives, according to the Bataan Memorial Death March Web site.

Competing not only against 17 teams but also against elevations that vary from 4,100 to 5,200 feet, the U.S. Army South Bataan Team won first place in the “Civilian Light Co-ed” category. The team members were Brig. Gen. P.K. Keen; Capts. Steven Bearden, David Eckley and

Patrick Harty; and 1st Lt. Analise Thompson.

Dressed in ACUs, combat boots and carrying 35-pound rucksacks for the road march, USARSO officers 1st Lt. James Benson, Capt. Michael Lamphier, and Sgts. 1st Class Samuel Gomez Jr. and Jose Flores competed in the Military Heavy Division. Benson and Lamphier finished 22nd and 23rd respectively, with a finishing time of 6 hours and 52 minutes. Gomez and Flores also had an exceptional performance, placing 50 and 55 out of 260 in this division.

USARSO officer Lt. Col. Stephen Morris placed 235 of 773 in the men’s category, while 1st Sgt. Elva Marquez placed 47 of 410 in the female division.

Several Soldiers from the Soldier Medic Training Site, G Company, 232nd Medical Battalion, from Camp Bullis, also tackled the grueling 26.2-mile march.

“Mile after mile we just kept thinking about the survivors and how hard they had it because they didn’t get any food or water for the entire 60 to 100 miles,” said Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Sabin.

The 232nd team included Sgts. 1st Class Birgit James, Christopher Sabin and Kenneth Rogers; and Staff Sgts. Timothy Mick, Billy Coble, Adam Garrison and Michael Catlin.

Additionally, a team and individual Soldiers from the 470th Military Intelligence Brigade competed in the march. The 314th Military Intelligence Battalion team included Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Myres; Spc. Ronald Acquistio; and Sgts. Colleen Anderson, Rachell Rozas and Heriberto Ruiz-Sierra. The team finished in eighth place with a time of 10 hours and 41 minutes. Other participants



Photo by Spc. Tim Luukkonen  
Kevin Pannell walks up the hill passing the 10-mile marker as Sol Wagoner walks beside him carrying the Arkansas state flag, representing their home state.

See 26.2-MILE MARCH on Page 5

## Educators

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the American Dietetic Association in Chicago.

During the tour, visitors had the chance to learn about training in all of its dimensions, from classroom training at the Army Medical Department Center and School to practical application at Brooke Army Medical Center and the Center for the Intrepid physical rehabilitation facility. At nearby Camp Bullis, the VIPs were familiarized with “roughing it” Army-style as they toured the tents where medical specialty students train for deployment.

“This tour has been a phenomenal illumination of the Army. There’s a huge opportunity for us to learn, have an exchange of ideas between our students and the Army’s,” said Linda Lafferty, president of the National Society of Healthcare Food Service Management, and director of dietetic internship at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

“The Army training for war would be very applicable for civilian disasters, such as an Avian flu outbreak,” said Mary Angela Miller, president-elect for the NSHFSM and administrative director of hospital administration at The Ohio State University Medical Center in Columbus. “We come from very progressive medical centers, but what we’re seeing here is very impressive. If I had a military applicant, I would give them greater consideration now, particularly when it comes to their leadership experience.”

The focus for some visitors was military familiarization, but a few attended the tour with a different goal in mind. Sandy Harding, director of Federal Affairs for the American Academy of Physician Assistants, was on a fact-finding mission to help fuel her work to increase

benefits for PAs. “If the federal government wants to attract PAs, it has to be competitive,” said Harding, who is working with the Office of Personnel Management to update classifications and qualifications for the career field. “It’s helpful to see PAs in action so I can better understand recruitment issues.”

“The Army has a shortfall in acquisition of PAs,” said Gregor Bennett, president elect of the American Association of Physician Assistants, Grand Rapids, Mich. “I mentor a lot of prospective PA students, and would urge them to consider a career in uniform. The Army has a lot to offer students.”

The tour not only brought the Army to life for the civilians, it also dispelled some myths about military health care for attendees who, like the rest of the nation, have been bombarded with negative stories from the media.

“I was astonished by CFI and the BAMC facilities,” said Joseph Tommasino, physician assistant program director at Touro College, Bayshore, N.Y., and an Army Reserve major for the “Famous Fighting 69th” in Manhattan. “After all of the negative press, all I can say is, ‘What’s everyone talking about?’”

“I’m seeing amazing state-of-the-art care,” said Barbara Kornblau, a professor at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and former president of the American Occupational Therapy Association. “Every Soldier deserves the quality of care given in the Intrepid. I’m going to go back and tell my students, ‘if you want to work in state-of-the-art facilities and serve



Photo by Elaine Wilson  
(From left) Col. Mary Erickson, IMA chief of occupational therapy; Barbara Kornblau, a professor at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and former president of the American Occupational Therapy Association; and Col. Mary Lopez, chief of OT for the active component and assistant Army Medical Specialist Corps chief, watch as physical therapy students practice IV insertion Tuesday at Camp Bullis.

your country, this is the place to be.”

A few of the visitors were so impressed, they were tempted to join themselves.

“I’m so impressed at how polite and respectful people in the military are,” said Liz Cara, occupational therapy professor at San Jose State University, Calif.

“If I was 30 years younger, I’d be enlisting,” Lafferty said.



# 26.2-mile march

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included Capts. Jason Hogan and Kyle Fox; Sgts. Joseph Fritze and David Degroot; Spcs. Joseph Weil, Benny Mercado, Allison Willson and Larry Radler; and Airman Elizabeth Elliot.

“The absolute hardest thing was the sandpit. It was like beach sand. You were already dead tired and then you had to force yourself through the sand. Adding to that was sore feet and muscle fatigue. In our team we had Sgt. 1st Class Myers who is 40-something. I was the youngest member on the team. So if he could do it; I could do it. It became an issue of pride,” Rozas said.

Kevin Pannell served in the military for nine years before being injured and losing both of his legs. With prosthetics on, he walked alongside Sgt. 1st Class Sol Wagner and Lt. Col. Barbara Springer, matching them



Courtesy photo Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Rogers, from the 232nd Medical Battalion, meets with a Bataan survivor at the start line of the march.

stride for stride. “The guys who walked the real Bataan went through a lot more than I’ll ever have to. If they can do it, the least I can do is come out here and support them,” Pannell said.

Despite the challenges, people continued on, determined to complete the march. Many had one thought in mind, “If the Soldiers of the real Bataan did it, I can do it.”

The Army ROTC Department at New Mexico State University began sponsoring the memorial march in 1989. In 1992, White Sands Missile Range and the New Mexico National Guard joined in the sponsorship and the event was moved to the missile range.

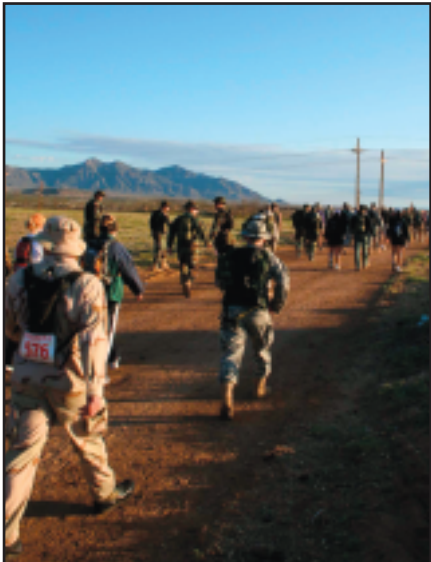
On April 9, 1942, tens of thousands of American and Filipino soldiers were surrendered to Japanese forces. The Americans were Army, Army Air Corps, Navy and Marines. Among those seized were members of the 200th Coast Artillery, New Mexico National Guard. These Soldiers defended the islands of Luzon, Corregidor and the harbor defense forts of the Philippines, prior to being surrendered.

After their capture, they were forced to march for days on end to prisoner of war camps. During the march, thousands died of malaria, the intense heat, abuse or other maladies. Those that managed to survive were subject to the harsh conditions of the POW camp. Overcoming the intense battles, capture, a horrendous march through the jungles of the Philippines and POW camps made these brave Soldiers American heroes.

For more information on the march, visit [www.BataanMemorialDeathMarch.com](http://www.BataanMemorialDeathMarch.com). (Sources: Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Rogers, Spc. Tim Luukkonen and Robert Appin contributed to this article)



Courtesy photo The U.S. Army South Bataan Team won first place in the “Civilian Light Co-ed” category. The team members are (from left) Capt. Steven Bearden, Capt. David Eckley, Brig. Gen. P.K. Keen, 1st Lt. Analise Thompson and Capt. Patrick Harty.



Bataan Memorial Death March participants start their 26.2-mile journey.

Photo by Spc. Tim Luukkonen

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Victims can choose how to report sexual assault

By Valerie Gurulé  
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator

In 2005, the Department of the Army acknowledged sexual assault as a crime for the first time in the history of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Sexual assault has been said to have no place in the U.S. Army and is a criminal offense.

The Department of the Army defines sexual assault as “intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent; sexual assault can occur without regard to gender, spousal relationship, or age. Consent shall not be deemed or construed to mean the failure by the victim to offer physical resistance. Consent is not given when a perpetrator uses force, threat of force, coercion, or when the victim is asleep, incapacitated, or unconscious.”

Sexual assault goes against all Army values and degrades mission readiness by devastating the Army’s ability to work as a team. The Department of the Army implemented the Sexual Assault policy, AR 600-20 Chapter 8, to create a friendlier environment for victims of sexual assault. With this policy came two reporting options: “Restricted Reporting” and “Unrestricted Reporting.” These options give victims of sexual assault the power to release details of the event as they see fit.

Under the Restricted Reporting option, victims can receive medical examinations and counseling without informing command or the Criminal Investigation Division. This option gives the victim the time needed to make a well-informed decision about whether or not to report the assault. Additionally, with Restricted Reporting, the victim is entitled to a sexual assault forensic examiner exam. A medical professional gathers evidence during the SAFE exam which can later be used for prosecution purposes if and when the victim comes forward to report the sexual assault. The victim may only consult with one of four individuals regarding an assault

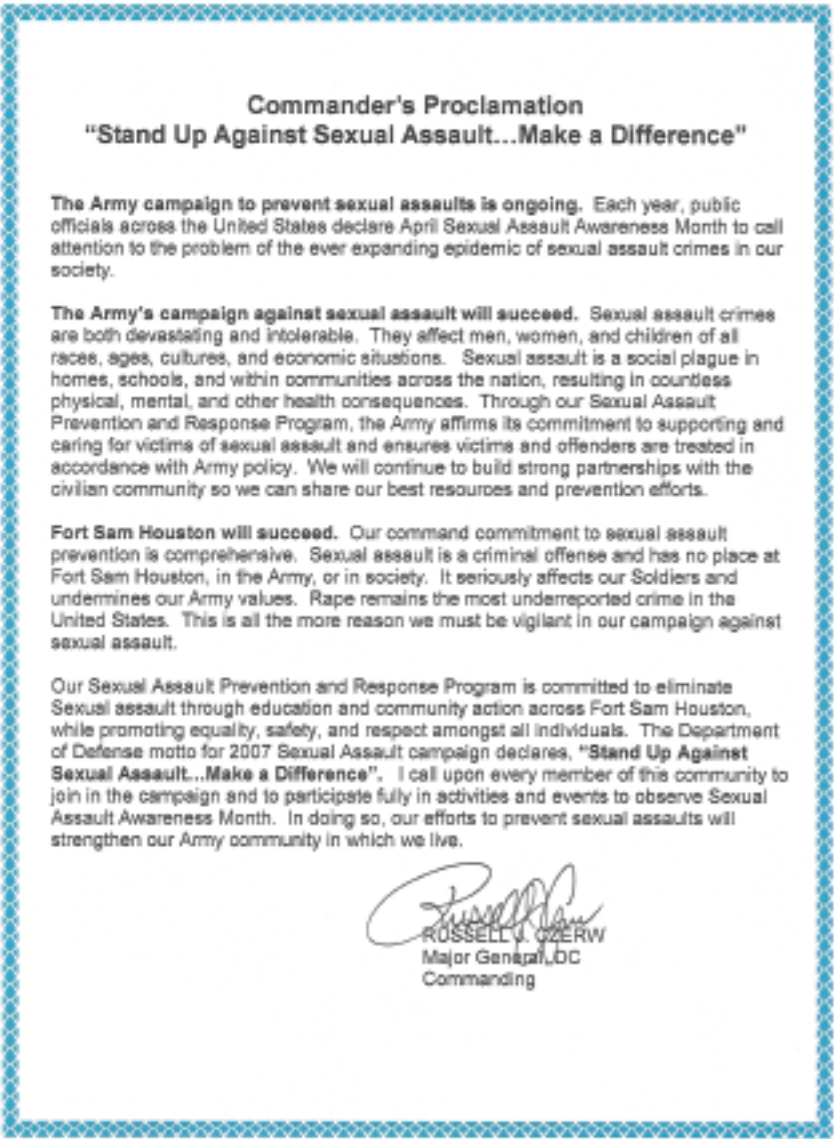
— a sexual assault response coordinator, victim advocate, medical personnel or chaplain. The report will automatically turn unrestricted once someone other than the protected four is made aware of the assault.

Unrestricted Reporting provides the widest range of protection and rights to the victim while enhancing safety of the community and other service members. With this option, the victim’s chain of command is notified of the incident as well as CID. This, in turn, initiates an investigation. This reporting option allows command to hold the offender accountable as well as issue a military “No Contact Order” if necessary. Along with command and CID involvement, the victim is also entitled to medical care and counseling.

Sexual assault victims act in different ways. Some victims may appear hyper-vigilant, depressed and extremely angry, while others may be able to function as though an assault never took place.

Sexual assaults are crimes that show no discrimination. Assaults can happen to anyone at anytime or place. It is important to keep yourself safe by knowing your limits when it comes to alcohol consumption as well as being aware of your surroundings at all times.

AR 600-20 states all units on the installation must participate in an annual sexual assault briefing. For more information on the sexual assault policy or to schedule a briefing, call the SARC, Valerie



Gurulé, at 221-0918 or e-mail [valerie.gurule@samhouston.army.mil](mailto:valerie.gurule@samhouston.army.mil). Fort Sam Houston also offers a 24/7 Sexual Assault Helpline; call 722-4920.



Fort Sam Houston  
Independent School District  
Weekly Calendar  
Monday through April 28

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

Monday  
Color Guard and Drill Team at Cole High School stadium, 9 a.m. (students go by bus)  
Wednesday  
Progress reports go home  
PBS picnic celebration  
Early dismissal – kindergarten through fourth grades, 2 p.m.  
Early Dismissal – fifth and sixth grades, 2:30 p.m.  
April 26  
King Antonio visits elementary, 10:35 a.m.  
April 27  
Inclement weather make-up day  
Early release schedule:  
Pre-kindergarten through fourth grade, 11 a.m.  
Fifth and sixth grades, 11:30 a.m.

Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School

Monday  
FSHISD Fiesta celebration at Cole stadium, 9 to 10:30 a.m.  
Regional golf tournament at Quail Creek Golf Course, San Marcos  
Tuesday  
Regional golf tournament at Quail Creek Golf Course, San Marcos  
Cole baseball at Natalia, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday  
Regional golf tournament at Quail Creek Golf Course, San Marcos  
Regional tennis, TBA  
April 26  
Regional golf tournament at Quail Creek Golf Course, San Marcos  
Regional tennis, TBA  
S2S training, all day  
Fiesta band festival at Alamo Stadium, TBA  
April 27  
Inclement weather make-up day  
Early release at 12:15 p.m.  
Regional golf tournament at Quail Creek Golf Course, San Marcos  
Cole band performing in the Battle of Flowers Parade downtown, TBA  
Regional track meet at Texas State University, all day  
April 28  
Regional golf tournament at Quail Creek Golf Course, San Marcos  
Regional track meet at Texas State University, all day

# Hip-hop artist visits Cole High School

Story and photo by **Elizardo Hernandez**  
Robert G. Cole Junior Senior High School

Several Robert G. Cole High School students appeared on MTV’s “Total Request Live” Monday, a flagship television series that features popular music videos. MTV hip-hop artist Paul Wall visited the school last week and filmed segments for the show that included students and scenes from Cole. The school was one of five high schools from across the country selected to take part in the popular show during National High School Week. Well-known for his rap music and

custom-made gold fronts and “grills” (tooth jewelry), 24-year old Wall promotes health, wellness and fitness among teenagers, having recently lost 40 pounds himself. To reach the thousands that buy his music and watch his television show, he invites high school students to perform on television and support his message. Using a gymnastic class with Cole students exercising to calisthenics, relay runs, agility ladder drills and various workout activities, Wall demonstrated his important message.

See **HIP-HOP ARTIST** on Page 10



Paul Wall stands in the middle of the Robert G. Cole High School students who participated in the filming of MTV’s “Total Request Live.” The show aired Monday.

## Books galore on Texas shores at Fort Sam Houston Elementary

By **Dr. Kathy Maxwell**  
Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

The Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization held another successful Scholastic Book Fair this year. The members planned and prepared several activities to attract parents, students and staff to the fair.

The Fort Sam Houston parents created a Texas summer shore experience. The lobby of the school was decked out with a beach scenario, sunshine armadillo surfers, ocean waves and a cougar lifeguard. The halls were adorned with beach scenes created by the students.

The Family Fun Night featured a special door-prize sign-in at the

entrance to the school. The parents and children were greeted with beautiful book displays in the cafeteria and a special teacher stop called “Teachers Fishing for Books” where teachers could post special classroom requests for parent donations.

At the rear of the cafeteria, a special “Cowabunga Café” was set up surfer style with hot dogs, chips and drinks for the hungry shoppers. PTO volunteers were on hand to greet the hungry parents and students.

As parents and students moved down the hall to the “Hang Ten” gym, they were able to view the beautiful beach scenes decorating the walls. Activities in the gym included hula-hoops, “Go Fish” and “Beach Ball Volley Ball.”



Courtesy photo

## Principal’s Students of the Month

Each month Cole Jr./Sr. High School recognizes one student from each grade level for outstanding attitude, citizenship and overall contribution to the school. The students are nominated by their teachers and one student is selected by the faculty for each grade level. The recipients for March 2007 are (from left) Booker Newton, seventh grade; Shelby Tallent, eighth grade; Frank Thompson, 11th grade; Brittany Starr, ninth grade; and Amy Mick, 10th grade. Not pictured is Allison Erickson, 12th grade.

Hip-hop artist

Continued from Page 8

Wall also shared his message on the importance of respecting others. He asked for comments from Cole students and encouraged them to work hard on their studies and “keep it real.” Cole students willingly shared their talents with Wall in several styles of lyrical arts.

“I enjoyed working out with Coach Wall,” said senior WynIntray Watts. “He was inspiring and I believe in his statement ‘Get Money, Stay True’ because studying, working hard and being true to one’s self is critical in our fast-changing world.”

Senior Whitney Miller added, “I’m so proud and honored that Paul Wall chose Cole out of the thousands of high schools in our great country.”

Wall recently returned from a two week USO tour in Iraq where he entertained U.S. troops.

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District honor roll

<b>A Honor Roll</b> <b>Third nine weeks</b> <b>Seventh Grade</b> Megan Ahearne Alexius Bennett Molly Gresenz Kayla Larvins Francesca Mercado William Taliaferro <b>Eighth Grade</b> Brian Flythe Carlton Hogan Katelyn Juni Taylor Kane Gretchen Newcomer Megan Renz Sara Wellington <b>Ninth Grade</b> Troy Griffith Amber Wessies <b>10th Grade</b> Lauren Garrott Colby Register <b>11th Grade</b> Tabitha Fielder Jennifer Gibson	Caitlin Mester <b>12th Grade</b> Anne Cenney Brittany Maas Stephen Sult Kurt Walker <b>A/B Honor Roll</b> <b>Third nine weeks</b> <b>Seventh Grade</b> Christopher Badger Tiffany Bailey Zachary Bauman Li-Diannette Benabe - Lugo Jasmine Boothe Jonathan Brooks Jailene Bruno Jade Butler Naomi Cabrero Sean Deaton Aidan Dochnal Wesley Ford Karen Garay Meagan Garcia Alaena Goderis Ciera Grayson	Kala Hendrickson Alexandra Herel Kristen Herring Chilton Knight Darius Price Elizabeth Rangel Cody Robison Samantha Sanburn Marlene Sloan Mason Starnes Jodeci Tuiletufuga Ladarrius Turner Suheilily Valderrama Savannah Wessies Kayla Wilson William Zopff IV <b>Eighth Grade</b> Abigail Abrahamson Stephanie Aviles Carissa Brown Krista Bryson Justine Dintelmann Ashley Erickson Sheyondra Evans Shantal Goodwill Erica Gunter	Anysha Harris Jennifer Henry Janiece Judkins Connor Kelly Ashton Lagutchik Rebecca Lavender Valerie Layton Portia Meyers Samantha Mickett Abigail Nopo Estrella Rodriguez Meagan Rush Mollie Starnes Shelby Tallent Donhvan Vallejos Kenaura Warren Kenicia Warren Joshua Yates <b>Ninth Grade</b> Joseph Bradley Yeralis Cabrero-Rivera Justin Langford Craig Layton, Jr. Devin Nesmith Eric Rolfe Kaitlin Sheridan	Brittany Starr Christopher Staton Lindsey Wafford <b>10th Grade</b> Micheal Almuina Coria' Bowen Ryan Brock Clara Buchanan Kelsey Charlton Guster Cunningham IV Kyle Davis Nathan Eggers Casey Gresenz Zachary Quintana Elishia Harris William Kirk Kelsey Lunkenheimer Kaitlan Vasquez Steven Wade Richard Well <b>11th Grade</b> Jessica Bagg Martha Brown Timothy Fletcher Megan Heard Wesley Lavender Jordan Maney Patrick Newcomer	Dustin Reitstetter Ricardo Riera II Lindsey Saddler Jennifer Sees Lukas Sheridan Jacob Stonecipher Katherine Teeter <b>12th Grade</b> Roy Aviles Amber Bocanegra Tierra Boykins Ryan Boyles Kathryn Bruce Sarah J. Clark Sarah N. Clark Alexander Dochnal Cshakenah Fisher Brendan Ford Amber Grayson Lionel Lowery III Cameron Lucke Michelle McClendon Lisa Nieves Dianisse Plaza Benjamin Reitstetter Melissa Velez Dallas Williams Michael Wood Jr.
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Reminder to parents:

School will be dismissed early April 27 according to the following schedule. Buses will run normal routes.

- Fort Sam Houston Elementary School:  
Pre-kindergarten to fourth grade: 11 a.m.  
Fifth and sixth grades: 11:30 a.m.
- Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School:  
12:15 p.m.



Child and Youth Services

Summer Camp registration

Summer Camp registration for School Age Services and Middle School and Teens is ongoing at Central Registration, Building 2797, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. until spaces are full. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services. To register, patrons must provide sponsor’s Leave and Earnings Statement and spouse’s W-2 form, two local emergency designees, an \$18 registration fee per child, child’s Social Security number. A current immunizations record and a health assessment for kindergarten through fifth grades is required. There is a non-refundable deposit for School Age Services.

Early morning child care

The Child Development Center and School Age Services program will open at 5 a.m. through April 29 for patrons requiring early morning physical training hours. A review will be conducted at the end of the 30-day period to assess program usage and cost effectiveness. If program demand is low or not cost effective the facilities will return to their regular morning hours. Patrons will need to reserve two weeks in advance. Regular full day or before school users will pay their usual monthly rate. Intermittent users will pay a non-refundable, hourly fee rate that must be paid at the time of reservation. For more information, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

Parent Advisory Council meeting

The Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council will meet May 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center. Lunch will be provided. All CYS patrons are encouraged to

attend. This is an opportunity to meet staff, attend parent workshops and learn of upcoming events.

Off-post childcare options

The Army Child Care in Your Neighborhood program offers military families more childcare options in the local community. There are two childcare centers and 25 civilian providers in areas surrounding Fort Sam Houston for use by local Army families. The centers and providers are monitored to ensure they meet Army standards. For more information, call Family Service Association at 431-7570 or Fort Sam Houston Central Registration at 221-4871.

Family Child Care Online

Family Child Care Online is a marketing tool that allows parents to take a virtual tour of FCC homes. In addition, parents can read about the provider’s philosophy of care, hours of operation and background. This online tool can be accessed through the Child and Youth Services Central Registration office in Building 2797 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

FCC providers

Family Child Care is looking for family members interested in becoming certified FCC providers. There is a no-cost start-up plan. For more information, call 221-3828.

Sport physicals

Patrons interested in summer and fall sports should make appointments for sport physicals now. Patrons will need a sport physical to register. Patrons must be registered with Child and Youth Services to participate in sports. For more information or registration requirements, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

SKIES School of Languages

The following language classes are available for students registered with Child and Youth Services:

- German: Monday, 30-minute classes from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for beginner, intermediate and advanced students, located in Building 2530.
- German: Monday through Wednesday, 90-minute classes, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. and 5 to 6:30 p.m. for beginner, intermediate and advanced students, located in Building 1630A.
- Arabic: Thursday, 90-minute classes from 3:30 to 5 p.m. and 5 to 6:30 p.m. beginner and intermediate students, located in Building 1630A.

To determine the child’s skill level, call the instructor, Rabiaa Gardner, at 744-2304. Payment is due on a monthly basis and registration is required with Child and Youth Services prior to the first class. The first month’s fees are due at time of registration at Building 2797. Fees are due and payable at the beginning of each month, and can be paid at the Child Development Center, Building 2530, School Age Services, Building 1705, or the Middle School and Teens, Building 1630. For more information, call 221-1723 or 221-4871.

Sports Briefs . . .

Boxers wanted

The Jimmy Brought Fitness Center seeks boxers as it prepares to host another round of boxing excitement. Boxing at the Brought IV will be held June 2 at 6 p.m. Boxers must be registered and in training 30 days prior to the event. If interested in participating as a boxer in this or future events, call the Intramural Sports Branch at 221-1180 or e-mail earl.t.young@us.army.mil. Event T-shirts are on sale at select locations. For more information, call 221-1234.

Softball tryouts

Players are needed for the men’s and women’s post softball team. For more information or to tryout, call Earl Young at 221-1180 or e-mail earl.t.young@us.army.mil.

Interested in sumo?

The Lone Star Sumo Kyokai is recruiting members to establish a Fort Sam Houston team. The team will compete in a local tournament scheduled for May 5. The sport is not just for the “big” boys anymore; there are both men’s and women’s weight divisions. The instructor is

Tom Zabel, a 2nd degree black belt and national medalist with more than 19 years of sumo experience. For more information, call Zabel at 977-3202 or e-mail tszabel@lackland.af.mil.

Volleyball tournament

The 2007 Asian Pacific Heritage Month Volleyball Tournament will be held May 12 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center, 320 Wilson Road. The tournament is open to military, family and unit teams. The registration deadline is April 27. For registration, e-mail Staff Sgt. Trapanger Stephens at trapanger.stephens@lackland.af.mil or trapanger.stephens@us.army.mil.

Annual track meet

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. presents its 23rd annual track meet for youth ages 6 through 14 Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fox Tech Stadium, 727 E. Quincy St. Admission is free for spectators with a \$2 registration fee per participant. All students will receive certificates of participation, winners receive ribbons and schools receive participation and sportsmanship trophies. Participants can enroll individually or as a group. For more information, call 654-0308 or 654-0178.



# Soldiers vie for ‘Top Medic’ title

## Fort Sam NCO takes third place

Story and photos by Jerry Harben  
U.S. Army Medical Command

In a grueling competition April 13 through 16 at Camp Bullis and Fort Sam Houston, medics from throughout the Army met to see who is best of the best.

Staff Sgt. Mario Medina, a wardmaster at Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Wash., emerged from the Expert Field Medical Challenge with the title of “Top Medic in the Army.” Staff Sgt. Cesar Veliz, of the 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga., finished second in the competition, and Sgt. 1st Class Gregorio Villanueva, of the Army Medical Department Center and School at Fort Sam Houston, finished third.

The EFMC was both physically and mentally demanding. Working with little sleep over 75 hours, the competitors completed a formidable gauntlet of tasks:

- Physical fitness test.
- M-16A2 rifle and M-9 pistol marksmanship.
- A 100-question written test on medical subjects and Common Warrior Soldier Skills.
- Navigation by map and compass to find 20 locations over 10 miles of hilly terrain, both in dark and daylight.
- An exhausting course of 18 obstacles.
- The “Top Medic Stakes,” hands-on demonstrations of military communication skills, assembling the M-9 pistol, preparing to fire the M-136 AT4 anti-tank weapon and responding to a cardiac arrest.
- Timed combat medical lanes by day and night. Working in realistic scenarios, they were required to lead a squad through a mission; react to enemy fire; use chemical/biological protective equipment; and retrieve, assess, treat and evacuate casualties with a variety of wounds.
- A 12-mile foot march with rucksack, weapon, helmet and protective vest.

“We came here knowing what’s expected, but they threw so many things at us – it’s basically a reaction competition,” Medina said.

“The toughest part was dealing with the conditions. We had rain and a tornado warning. We slept under the stars two nights. We were going on one to three hours of sleep a night,” he added.

Sgt. Jonathan Bailey, who represented the 44th Medical Command at Fort Bragg, N.C., said the most memorable part of the event was the combat lane in the Camp

Bullis military operations on urban terrain site. “It was nothing short of spectacular, some of the best training I have received in the Army,” Bailey commented.

“It was fun – good training,” agreed Staff Sgt. Zheilad Gonzalez, from the Great Plains Regional Medical Command.

Twenty-nine competitors represented divisions, medical brigades, separate regiments, Medical Command’s regional medical commands and the National Guard. All had previously earned the Expert Field Medical Badge or the Combat Medic Badge.

Maj. Jon Seddon of the British Army also completed the tests, although he was not competing. He was gaining ideas for the British equivalent of EFMC.

“It’s a really good experience. It’s a pleasure to get the training, learn new skills and meet the top medics in the U.S. Army,” Seddon said.

Medina recorded the highest score on the written test and fastest time on the foot march. Other leaders in the individual events were Villanueva in land navigation and the Top Medic Stakes, Staff Sgt. William Thurston in marksmanship, Gonzalez on the physical fitness test, Sgt. Ryan Hamilton on the obstacle course, Sgt. Joshua Flaherty on the night combat medical lane, Staff Sgt. Kelly Smith on the MOUT combat medical lane and Veliz on the second combat medical lane.

Medina, who has been in the Army six years, has experience at a high level of competition, having won the title of MEDOM NCO of the Year last year.

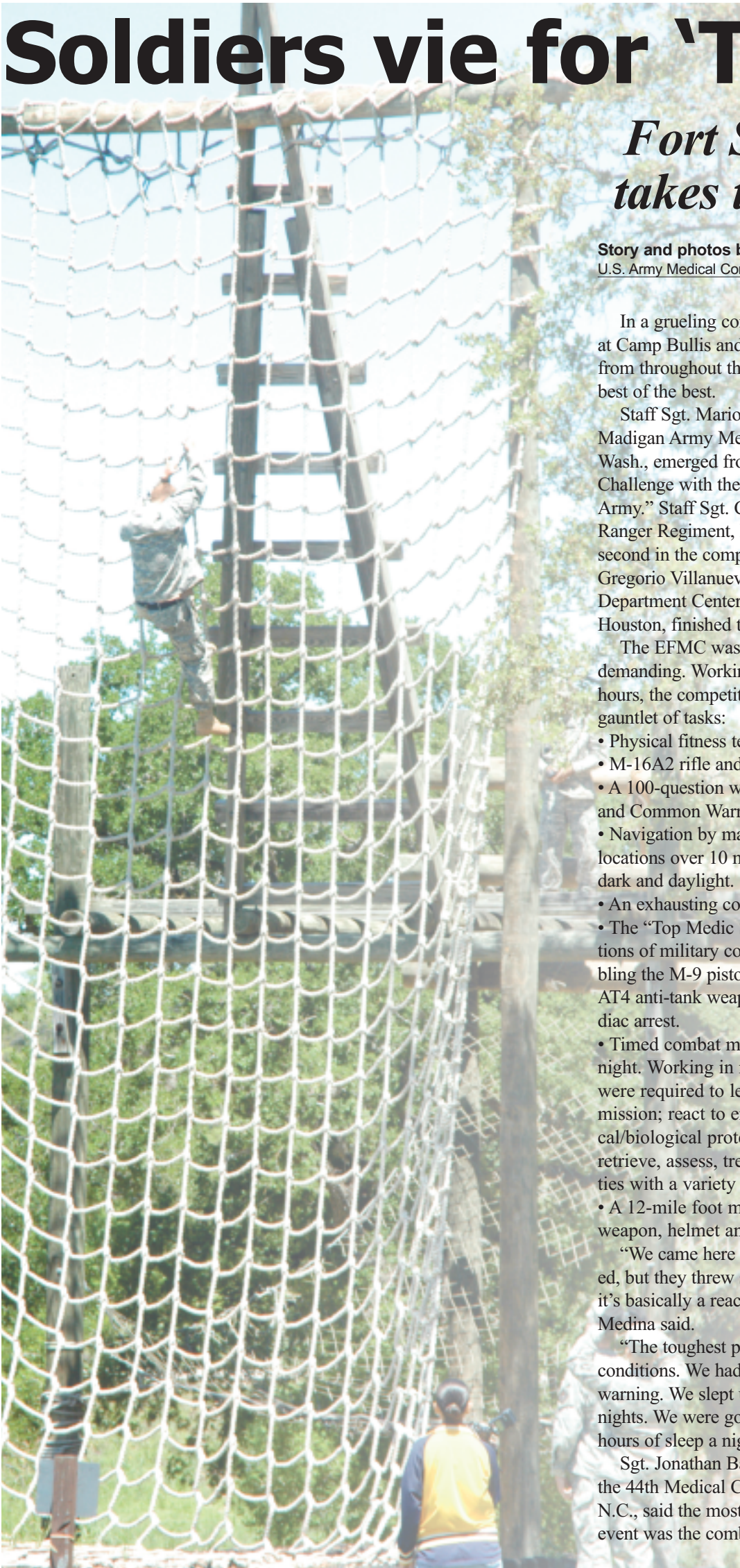
“I do this because by setting the example I can be an inspiration to my young Soldiers,” he said. “I want to lead by example and show others it can be done. It feels good when training pays off. Soldiers can see then that they can do it too.”

### Fort Sam supports EFMC

Nearly 300 Soldiers and a number of civilians from Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis helped support the Expert Field Medical Challenge.

They provided essentials such as food, water, transportation, equipment and safety, and played the parts of infantry Soldiers, opposition force and casualties during the combat medical lanes. In addition to instructors and evaluators from the Army Medical Department Center and School, personnel from Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston Dental Activity and the Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute conducted some of the tests.

“They were essential, and stepped up to the task of providing these medics a quality testing environment,” said Sgt. 1st Class Brian Chase, NCO in charge of the event.



Sgt. Joshua Flaherty, 62nd Medical Brigade, examines a patient during a timed combat medical lane. Flaherty led the Expert Field Medical Challenge competitors in the night combat medical lane portion of the contest.



Spc. Jerry Price, 18th Medical Command, reacts to enemy fire during a combat scenario.





Staff Sgt. Cesar Veliz, 75th Ranger Regiment, struggles to climb over an obstacle. Veliz, from Fort Benning, Ga., finished second in the competition.



Sgt. 1st Class Gregorio Villanueva, Army Medical Department Center and School, sets up a radio during one to the combat medical lane tasks of the Expert Field Medical Challenge April 13 to 16 at Camp Bullis and Fort Sam Houston. Villanueva finished third in the contest.



Staff Sgt. Zheilad Gonzalez, Great Plains Regional Medical Command, tackles one of the 18 obstacles on an exhausting obstacle course. Gonzalez scored the highest on the physical fitness test in the Expert Field Medical Challenge.



Staff Sgt. Christopher Howell, Europe Regional Medical Command, low crawls under an obstacle.



Sgt. Jonathan Bailey, 44th Medical Command, Fort Bragg, N.C., straps a casualty to a litter during a combat medical lane at Camp Bullis. Bailey said the combat lane at the military operations on urban terrain site was the most memorable event of the competition.



Spc. Edgar Ruiz, North Atlantic Regional Medical Command, drags a casualty at the end of the combat medical lane of the Expert Field Medical Challenge.



Staff Sgt. Maribel Martinez-Medina, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, conquers an obstacle as she vies for the title of top Army medic.

# EFMC competitors

- Staff Sgt. Mario Medina, Western Regional Medical Command
- Staff Sgt. Cesar Veliz, 75th Ranger Regiment
- Sgt. 1st Class Gregorio Villanueva, Army Medical Department Center and School
- Sgt. Ryan Hamilton, Western RMC
- Spc. Edgar Ruiz, North Atlantic RMC
- Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Vatcher, 30th Medical Brigade
- Sgt. 1st Class Juan Resendez, 101st Airborne Division
- Sgt. Joshua Flaherty, 62nd Medical Brigade
- Staff Sgt. Andrew Quen, 101st Airborne Division
- Staff Sgt. Zheilad Gonzalez, Great Plains RMC
- Staff Sgt. William Thurston, 1st Armor Division
- Staff Sgt. Christopher Howell, Europe RMC
- Staff Sgt. Gregory Morgan, North Atlantic RMC
- Sgt. Nathaniel Turner, Europe RMC
- Staff Sgt. Michael Rice, 1st Armor Division

- Sgt. Leon Evans, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment
- Sgt. Jonathan Bailey, 44th Medical Command
- Sgt. Atruro Balsa, 30th Medical Brigade
- Spc. James Hoffman, 44th Medical Command
- Staff Sgt. Maribel Martinez-Medina, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment
- Staff Sgt. Kelly Smith, AMEDDC&S
- Spc. Jerry Price, 18th Medical Command
- Sgt. Michael Powers, Southeast RMC
- Sgt. Christopher McCoy, Southeast RMC
- Pvt. 1st Class Christopher Howard, 25th Infantry Division
- Sgt. 1st Class Roger Murray, Army National Guard
- Sgt. 1st Class Milan Puente, Southeast RMC
- Sgt. William Carr, 25th Infantry Division
- Sgt. 1st Class Alphonse Thomas, Great Plains RMC



Community Recreation

Run, bike duathlon

The Fort Sam Houston run and bike 5K/14 mile/5K duathlon #4 will be held Sunday at 7:30 a.m. at the Brigade Gym. To register or for more information, call Will Lloyd or Lucian Kimble at 221-2020 or 221-1234.

Post garage sale

The next post garage sale will be held May 5 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the MacArthur Pavilion parking lot. There is no cost to participate, but vendors must pre-register by calling 221-2904, 221-2601 or 221-2307. A valid Department of Defense ID card is required to participate. The sale of firearms, animals or food and beverage items is not permissible. Participants may rent tables and chairs on site from the Outdoor Equipment Center. Rentals will be available on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last. For more information, call 221-5224.

Bow Hunter Education Class

A two-day Bow Hunter Education Class will be held Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Camp Bullis Outdoor Recreation Center. The registration fee is \$15 and payable on the first day of class. Reservations are required. The Bow Hunter Education Class is mandatory for all bow hunters who wish to hunt on Camp Bullis. Attendees should bring their own bows to class each day. The course is open to anyone ages 12 and older. For more information or to register, call 295-7577 or 295-7529.

Hunting permits available

Archery and combo hunting permits will be available at the Camp Bullis Outdoor Recreation Center May 4. For more information, call 295-7577.

Fort Sam Houston Ten Miler #1

The Fort Sam Houston Ten Miler #1 will be held May 6 at 7 a.m. at the Brigade Gym. The event serves as the official qualifier for the Army Ten Miler. The Morale, Welfare

and Recreation Sports and Fitness Branch will select 10 male and female participants who finish with the best times to represent the Fort Sam Houston team at the Army level. To register or for more information, call 221-2020 or 221-1234.

Summer swimming lessons

Registration for Red Cross swimming lessons begins May 7 at the Aquatic Center. Individuals must register in person Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The cost is \$40 per student and includes lessons, certificate of completion, class photo and T-shirt. Payment is due at registration. Lessons are conducted in two-week sessions held Monday through Friday from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. and 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Four summer sessions will be offered. The first session begins June 4; the last session begins July 23. For more information, call 221-4887 or 221-1234.

Equestrian summer youth camp

The Equestrian Center is taking registrations for youth ages 7 to 17 to participate in its Summer Youth Horsemanship Camp. Camp consists of a one-week session held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. The first session begins May 11; the last session ends Aug. 10. The registration fee is \$195. A \$25 deposit is required. For more information, call 224-7207.

Paintball adventure

The Lackland Outdoor Adventure Center has paintball activities. For more information, call 925-5532.

Bowling Center, 221-3683

Military doubles bowling tournament

The Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center will host the Third Annual San Antonio Military Doubles Bowling Tournament May 13, 19 and 20. Tournament bracket times begin at 11 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. each day. The cost to participate in the handicap division is \$40 per team or \$55 per team for participation in both the handicap and scratch divisions. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top

finalists. A flat screen television will be awarded to the first player who bowls a 300 scratch game. Participants must be at least 18 years old. To register or for more information, call 221-4740.

Dining and Entertainment

Sam Houston Club, 224-2721

Family-style Sunday brunch

Brunch is held the first and third Sunday of each month. The next brunch will be held Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. The brunch features a kids’ meal station, a chocolate fondue station, complimentary champagne and an international food station. The cost is \$13.95 for nonmembers, \$11.95 for members and \$7.95 for children 6 to 11 years old. Children 5 years old and under eat free. For more information, call 224-2721.

Administrative Professionals lunch

Administrative Professionals Day is Wednesday and the Sam Houston Club will host a special luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person. Space is limited. Managers need to make reservations early for themselves and their administrative personnel. Reservations are required by Friday. To make reservations or for more information, call 224-2721.

Cinco de Mayo Super TGIF

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo early with the Sam Houston Club at Super TGIF May 4 at 5:30 p.m. in the Seguin Room. Dance to festive music provided by an on-site disc jockey, and indulge in the free all-you-can-eat taco bar. For more information, call 224-2721.

Mother’s Day Brunch

The Sam Houston Club will host a Mother’s Day Brunch May 13 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The brunch will feature a chocolate fondue station, complimentary champagne and an international food station. Moms will receive a free carnation. The cost is \$17.95 for nonmembers, \$15.95 for members and \$7.95 for children 6 to 11 years old.

Arts and crafts contest

The Fort Sam Houston Outdoor Recreation Center seeks artisans and craftsmen to participate in an installation arts and crafts contest. The top five selections on the installation will advance to compete at the Army level. Entries are now being accepted; May 16 is the deadline for submissions. The judging will take place May 17. Awards will be given to the top three submissions and honorable mentions in each category and group. The contest is open to Department of Defense ID cardholders on Fort Sam Houston. For more information, call John Rodriguez at 221-5554 or visit the Outdoor Equipment Center at Building 1111, Forage Road.

Children ages 5 and younger eat free. Reservations are encouraged. For more information or to make reservations, call 224-2721.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre, 222-9694

The George Furth comedy “The Supporting Cast” will play at the Harlequin Dinner Theatre through May 12. Performance tickets are \$24.95 Wednesdays and Thursdays and \$27.95 Fridays and Saturdays. Doors open for salad bar and cocktails at 6:15 p.m., the buffet is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and the show begins at 8 p.m. Military discounts are available. To make reservations or for more information, call 222-9694.

MWR Ticket Office, 226-1663

Pepsi 400 NASCAR tickets

Tickets are available at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation ticket office for the Daytona International Speedway’s 2007 Pepsi 400 July 7. Buy the All-American package for \$72, a savings of \$20, and receive one Pepsi 400 Grandstand ticket and event hat. A pre-race pass to the Nextel Fanzone is \$46.50. This is a NASCAR-sponsored event. Parking is free. To purchase a ticket, stop by or call the ticket office at 226-1663 or 224-2721. For more event information, visit www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com. The ticket office will operate with extended summer hours through August. The ticket office is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and closed Sunday and Monday.



Events

Caminada de Fiesta 11K walk

The Caminada de Fiesta 11K walk will be held Saturday at Fort Sam Houston, beginning and ending at the U.S. Army Medical Department Museum. Start time is between 7:30 a.m. and 12 p.m., with an end time of 3 p.m. The event is sponsored by U.S. Army Medical Command and the Volkssport Association. The walk is free and open to the public. Participants are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. For more information, call Gerald Kamicka at 658-2160 or e-mail GeraldK726@aol.com.

American Heroes Air Show

The American Heroes Air Show, the nation’s premier avi-ation event dedicated exclusively to helicopters, will land at the Texas Military Forces’ Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas, Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission is free. The event features a career fair with recruiting teams to include law enforcement, public safety and government services. For more information, visit www.Heroes-airshow.com.

Free Mother’s Day message

Service members can send free Mother’s Day messages online to www.stripes.com through Monday. Messages will be published May 12 in Stars and Stripes Mideast, European and Pacific editions. Greetings will also be online for view- ing at www.stripes.com starting May 12. For more informa- tion, call Maria Luisa Hernandez at 202-761-0914.

MOAA-AC Fiesta Week picnic

The Military Officer Association of America-Alamo Chapter Fiesta Week picnic will be held Wednesday at 5 p.m. at Eberle Park on Randolph Air Force Base. Mexican food, a Mariachi band, dance and piñata contest, and Sombrero walk are some of the fun events planned. The cost is \$15 per person; the deadline to sign up is Friday. For more information or reservations, call 228-9955 or e-mail moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net.

Child Abuse Prevention Education Day

Child Abuse Prevention Education Day will be held April 27 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the University United Methodist Church, 5084 DeZavala Road, at Vance Jackson Road. The panel discussion will be “Child Abuse Prevention and Medical Issues, and the roles of the Faith Based Communities – Help us help you – To help them.”

Kyle walk

The San Marcos River Walkers Volksmarch Club will host a 10K and 5K walk April 28 at the Gregg-Clarke Park, 1300 W. Center St. in Kyle, Texas. For more information, call Barbara Piersol at 512- 396-4463 or e-mail bpiersol@grandecom.net.

‘Blue Sunday’ prayer service

A “Blue Sunday” prayer service will be held April 29

from 3 to 4 p.m. at Sea World. Many pastors, including Chaplain James Benson from Fort Sam Houston, will pray for abused children, children in foster care and parents who are facing difficult situations. All faith communities around San Antonio will take a brief moment to pray for abused children. The goal of “Blue Sunday” is to provide tickets to Sea World, with meals and transportation included, for the 2,250 children currently living in foster homes.

AACOG Regional Awards nominations

The Alamo Area Council of Governments is accepting nominations for the 2007 AACOG Regional Awards. Nominations are open to the public and will be presented June 13. Nominations must be received by May 1. Categories for nomination are Regional Citizen of the Year, Corporate Citizen of the Year, Community Project of the Year and Governmental Regional Project of the Year. Nomination forms can be submitted online at http://www.aacog.com/award, picked up from the AACOG offices at 8700 Tesoro Drive, Suite 700 or by fax at 225- 5937. For more information, call 362-5204 or e-mail mail@aacog.com.

Veterans in the Classroom Job Fair

The 37th Training Wing will host the USAA-sponsored Veterans in the Classroom Job Fair May 2 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at the Gateway Club on Lackland Air Force Base. Retired, retiring and separating military veterans and their spouses who are interested in pursuing a teaching career in math, science and technology are currently being recruited. For more information, call Cindy Ybanez at 671-4057.

Texas Christian Prayer Breakfast

The 27th Annual Texas Christian Military Prayer Breakfast will be held May 12 at 7:30 a.m. at the Marriott Rivercenter Ballroom in San Antonio. The guest speaker will be retired Marine Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Oster. The Texas Military Prayer Breakfasts in San Antonio are planned and conducted by a steering committee of active, retired and for- mer service members from a spectrum of Christian church- es. Tickets are \$14 each. For more information, call 364- 7972 or e-mail adorsey1@satx.rr.com.

‘Fit for Duty’

The Pentagon Channel is searching for a talented TV host for a new show called “Fit for Duty,” coming this summer. For more information, visit www.PentagonChannel.mil.

Training

Scholarship for Vets

The Dwyer Group will sponsor an annual \$2,500 veteran scholarship to assist military veterans pursuing college-level studies in fran-

chising or entrepreneurship. To be eligible, candidates must have received an honorable discharge from any branch of the United States military or Coast Guard and be enrolled or about to enroll in an entrepreneurial course of study at an accredited college or university. For applications, call 202- 628-8000 or visit www.franchise.org.

AFTB offers Level 1 classes

The Army Family Team Building will hold classes Monday through Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. each day at the Army Community Service center, Building 2797, Stanley Road. The AFTB Level One class will teach Army acronyms, discuss the impact of Army life and gather resources. The class can be used for promotion points. To register or for more information, call Sue York at 221-9821.

Meetings

Disabled American Veterans meeting

The Disabled American Veteran Alamo Chapter 5 and Auxiliary Unit #5 will meet Saturday at 10 a.m. at the Rolling Oaks Christian Church, 7150 Stahl Road, Loop 1604, at Nacogdoches Road behind Wal-Mart. For more information, call Albert Erazo at 651-7303, Adjutant Duke Hendershot at 830-624-1949 or visit www.DAVAL- MO5.org.

Warrant Officer Association meeting

The Lone Star Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association meets the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 8541, located at 2222 Austin Highway, between Perrin Beitel and Eisenhower roads. All active duty, retired, Reserve, National Guard warrant officers and family members of current or retired warrant officers are invited. For more information, call Bill Strout at 590-2642 or e-mail bstrout@texas.net, or Suzan Farrell at 378-0422 or e-mail suzan.farrell@us.army.mil.

Volunteer

ASMC community project

The American Society of Military Comptrollers will sponsor a community cleanup project Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Sunshine Plaza Apartments, 455 E. Sunshine Drive in San Antonio. The project involves light cleaning for senior residents. School students can earn a cer- tificate for up to three hours of community service. To vol- unteer, call Betty Ann Rosales at 536-1335 or e-mail Bettyann.Rosales@brooks.af.mil.

Submission guidelines:

Freebies are published on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline is noon Monday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. Real



estate ads will not be published. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail **news.leader@samhous-  
ton.army.mil** or fax to **221-1198**. Freebies run for one week unless submitter calls to renew. Limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-1031.

**For Sale:** Girl’s bedroom set: twin bed (no mattress), two dressers, bookshelf, mirror and nightstand; light wood color with small flowers; \$350 obo; living room couches, love seat and full-size, beige color, \$300. Call 379-5807.

**For Sale:** King size oak headboard, footboard, rails and mat-  
tress set, in excellent condition, \$600 obo. Call 277-6624.

**For Sale:** Brown loveseat with twin sleeper, \$275; glass round  
dining table with four chairs, \$250; big screen TV, 52-inch and wall  
unit, \$1,100. Call 650-0337.

**For Sale:** 2001 Honda passport, 42K miles, four-wheel drive,  
cold weather package, remote starter and alarm system, roof rack,  
maintenance records, runs great, \$9,500; 1999 Mazda Protégé, 82K  
miles, CD player, manual transmission, runs great, \$4,000. Call  
882-9521, leave message.

**For Sale:** Monterrey rustic table with four chairs, in excellent  
condition, \$500; Canon AE-1 program 35 mm camera, includes  
two lenses, flash and other extras, \$200. Call 697-9261 or 363-  
4056.

**For Sale:** 1994 Ford Ranger Extended Cab, five-speed manual,

107K miles, maintenance records, bed liner and toolbox, AM/FM  
stereo with cassette player, \$6,000 obo. Call 464-6761.

**For Sale:** 1996 Nissan Altima, GXE-V6, four door, tan, A/C,  
power-lock doors and windows, AM/FM/CD, in good condition,  
\$3,000 obo. Call 838-0819.

**For Sale:** Nordic Track SL710 recumbent exercise bicycle,  
like new and will deliver, \$275 obo. Call 299-1036.

**For Sale:** Red metal frame bunk bed with built-in ladder, full  
size bottom with mattress, twin on top, no mattress, \$50. Call 416-  
3736.

**For Sale:** Solid hardwood table, 48-inches wide by 36-inches  
long, rustic finish with four chairs, in excellent condition, \$500;  
Canon AE-1 program 35 mm camera, includes two lenses, flash  
and other extras, \$200. Call 697-9261 or 363-4056.

**For Sale:** Cream-colored sofa and love seat with covers, in  
good condition, coffee table, two end tables, coffee table rug  
included, \$600. Call 832-8128 or 215-7385.

**For Sale:** Entertainment center with complete cabinet set up  
that includes a 32-inch JVC TV, double tape deck, JVC receiver

with five surround sound speakers with subwoofer, \$225 obo; L-  
shaped corner group with end table, \$40. Call 830-438-2860 after 6  
p.m. or 218-2975.

**For Sale:** Bassinet with mattress, in excellent condition, \$25;  
cradle/rocker with mattress, in excellent condition, \$95; black  
leather sofa and recliner, \$395; Volvo, fully loaded, in excellent  
condition; AKC male English bulldog, 3 years old, \$975. Call 633-  
3859.

**For Sale:** Bassett oak infant crib, does not convert to toddler  
bed, in excellent condition, \$100; small kitchen table with L-  
shaped bench, seats five, \$50 obo; ladies semi formals, size 10/12,  
\$25; Yugioh cards, 10 pack, \$2.50; five rare cards, \$2 each. Call  
826-0882 or 542-3283.

**Free:** Oak tree, 6-foot in container. Call 646-9437, leave  
message.

**Moving Sale:** Whitney upright piano with bench, \$400 obo;  
Bassett sofa bed and love seat, \$300 obo; ProForm Cross Trainer  
VX treadmill, \$250 obo; Gibson refrigerator freezer, \$50; and  
more. Call Scott at 267-9457 or 845-309-2765.